



Ethical and Environmental Committee

9/2/16, 2pm in NH209 (Students' Association)

Minutes

Apologies: None

Present: Kayleigh van Dongen (Ethical and Environmental Officer),
Jodie Waite (VP GSBS), Sian Biamping (SB)

In Attendance: Aimee Cuthbert (Clerk)

Absent: Raven Hingley (RH)

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Minutes from last meeting

With no comments from committee members, the minutes from the previous committee meeting were approved.

3. Updates from last meeting

ACTION	PROGRESS
VP GSBS to speak to Fashion Programme Leads in the new year about student involvement	Spoke to Programme Lead and they are happy to speak to students but is unsure of the uptake due to the large workload. Also contacted society and no response. ACTION – VP GSBS to get update about student involvement in sewing workshops
Clerk to check with Sustainability Officer about shorter showers campaign	Sustainability Officer re-launched the campaign and is now being promoted through the SA website. COMPLETED
E+E Officer + VP GSBS with support of Clerk to create action plan for campaign	Action plan has been created and will be discussed at this meeting COMPLETED
E+E Officer to liaise with Communications and Media Co-ordinator about branding	E+E Officer did not meet with Communications and Media Co-ordinator as branding issue has been

	removed and is happy with the logo as it is. COMPLETED
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4. Green Impact Student Unions Update and Action Plan

The E+E Officer then proceeded to go through each action in the plan to get a progress report.

ACTION	PROGRESS
Identify negative impacts through own and GCU's reporting ,publish findings and take measures to decrease detrimental outputs	VP GSBS gathered information from Estates. Clerk to identify 4 more and will then publish.
Ensure the student magazine is sustainable and does not overprint	Gathered all appropriate information COMPLETED
Create a mileage rate for cyclists within our Expenses Policy to encourage more cycling	Being discussed at next Trustee Board – will get update after this takes place
Create a survey to get student feedback on sustainability and publish findings	Survey completed. Will discuss later in the meeting
Invite senior management in SA and relevant staff in GCU to meetings so they can contribute to the outcomes of the committee	Unable to attend last meeting – invite to 4 th meeting and then every 2 nd in future ACTION – Clerk to invite Student Voice Team Leader and GCU Sustainability Officer to next meeting
Define what adequately means and get proof on staff resource	Looking into staff time and have budget
Liase with clubs and societies on sustainability activities	Sustainability being built into training in future. Begun recording co2 emissions of clubs and socs travel and encouraging sustainable travel
Prove clothing is Fairtrade	Can prove ethically sourced but not Fairtrade. Chief Executive potentially looking into new supplier but nothing to be done this academic year.
Create action plan and publish	Been created and now published COMPLETED
Upload strategic plan	COMPLETED
Evidence meetings of positive outputs with Paulo/Therese/other instit. Officials	Will be identified nearer the end of the workbook

Working in partnership to attain external sustainability accreditation	VP GSBS sits on Fairtrade Working Group. Another meeting scheduled to discuss Fairtrade Fortnight
Get information from estates (utilities) to find this out then develop action plan	Have managed to get electricity only as cannot split gas readings (share a meeting with Govan Mbeki). Unsure if this energy is now produced via the Energy Centre ACTION – VP GSBS to clarify
Work with the institution to increase the amount of renewables in its energy mix (if not already in place)	VP GSBS got information from Estates but do not have statement from company to confirm this. SB suggested to get something from website ACTION – Clerk to investigate
Identify other SAs and external organisations and collaborate with	VP GSBS suggested looking into working with Kelvin College ACTION – VP GSBS to reach out to Kelvin College E+E Officer has reached out to Strathclyde who were keen but nothing have happened yet. Will revisit.
Create survey to gather evidence base on this then publish findings	Not realistic to action this year due to campaign launch and own survey.
Sustainability is referenced in the job descriptions of all new staff.	Not directly so not able to change at this stage.
Prove food waste bin and what happens to it	Still to speak to Bistro but have confirmation from GCU Sustainability Officer on what happens to food waste. Due to catering changeover, might be worthwhile mentioning in statement ACTION – Clerk to mention this is in workbook
Communicate with cleaning/security staff on sustainability	Memo sent out to cleaning/security staff in the new year COMPLETED
Work with Radial and support their projects	E+E still to work on this action point so will reach out to see if possible IN PROGRESS

5. The Big Green Survey 2017 Update

E+E Officer updated the committee that the survey was promoted during January and received 38 responses. The E+E Officer then went through the survey analysis highlighting that there was room for improvement in the

promotion of the group and ideas given on how to better promote the website which included possible having more interactive content such as videos and blogs.

VP GSBS felt the blogs could be done through the Students' Association website and the Clerk mentioned the Women's Group usage of WordPress for their blog. E+E Officer did not feel a blog was appropriate at this point. VP GSBS offered to do a blog on behalf of the group if they ever wished this.

E+E Officer then went through the top three issues students identified in GCU. It was felt it would be beneficial to contact participants thanking them for completing the survey, letting them know about past projects and our current campaign.

ACTION – E+E Officer to email participants of survey

E+E Officer then mentioned that the current campaign received positive feedback which is encouraging and that the results from the survey would be passed onto the future E+E Officer to give them ideas.

6. Click It to Submit It Campaign

E+E Officer updated the committee that the campaign launched yesterday and that the idea was to get as many signatures as possible to pass onto the university. E+E Officer has also spoken to Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic about the campaign who is very supportive of it and agrees that training should be given to support staff which compliments the aims of the campaign. The E+E Officer was keen to go out and get people to sign over the next few weeks and engage with students about the campaign.

VP GSBS felt that it would be good to have the other Full Time Officers involved in the campaign as this helped with the Student Presidents' Assessment and Feedback campaign and this campaign feeds into it.

E+E Officer then went on to say they would share the campaign to the committee and group to get more people involved in the campaign and promote at Student Voice as well as online.

ACTION – E+E Officer to get more people involved in the campaign and promote it at Student Voice

VP GSBS agreed with promotion at Student Voice and also said she would speak to her own Dean of School to promote. E+E Officer felt it would be good to reach out to the other Vice Presidents to do the same

ACTION – VP GSBS to promote campaign to Dean GSBS

ACTION – E+E Officer to reach out to other Vice Presidents to promote campaign

At this point E+E Officer asked the committee if they had any other suggestions for promotion or other questions. No one had any questions so discussion moved to times committee members were free to help promote the survey. Clerk suggested a timetable would be a good resource to create. E+E Officer said she would meet with VP GSBS to discuss further and send timetable out to all interested in helping out with the campaign.

7. AOCB

SB enquired whether having a drop off of printer cartridges would be a good campaign to run as she had personal experience in having difficulty doing this. The Clerk explained that the university currently recycled this but was not sure if this was just for university printers or for students widely.

E+E mentioned the stamp collection that the GCU Sign Society had done in the past and whether this would something that the committee could work with them on. SB said they would look online to see what is possible.

SB also mentioned an idea of clothes collection from Caledonian Court when students move out. VP GSBS mentioned that there had been swap shops done in the past but donating to a charity could work and that they liked the idea. VP GSBS then enquired about when students moved out of Caledonian Court.

SB suggested that the first pick up could be at the end of exams week as many students do leave after this time. VP GSBS liked this idea as people tend to recycle at the end of the year so this would be an ideal time. E+E Officer mentioned that British Heart Foundation deliver bags to homes which could be a good idea but that a further meeting should take place.

ACTION – E+E Officer to meet with SB and GCU Sustainability Officer about potential in this campaign.

8. Date of next meeting – Friday 17th March, 12pm, NH209